

REMARKS

Introduction

Claims 13-24 are pending in the present application. In view of the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the present application is requested.

Rejection of Priority Claim

This application is a National Stage of International Application No. PCT/DE00/03020, filed on September 20, 2000. The Examiner has indicated that the Specification must be amended to include a reference to Applicants' International Application. Respectfully, such a reference has already been made on the application transmittal (Form PTO-1390) and in Applicants' Declaration. Furthermore, as is clear from the filing receipt in this case, the Patent Office has already recognized that Applicants are entitled to the benefit of the International Application. However, in an abundance of caution, Applicants have amended the Specification as requested by the Examiner. No new matter has been added.

Objection to the Claims

The Examiner has objected to the claims based on various alleged informalities. Applicants have amended the claims in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. No new matter has been added. It is submitted that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the objection is requested.

Objection to the Specification

The Examiner has objected to the Specification due to an alleged informality on page 10, lines 7 and 8. Respectfully, Applicants have already amended the Specification in the manner suggested by the Examiner. (See, e.g., Amendment, dated May 7, 2007, page 4). Withdrawal of the objection is requested.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims of the present application are in condition for allowance. Prompt reconsideration and allowance of the present application are therefore earnestly solicited.

The Office is authorized to charge any fees associated with this Amendment to Kenyon & Kenyon LLP Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 11 Sept 2007

By:

 *CP No 36088*
Michelle Carnary

Gerard A. Messina
(Reg. No. 35,952)

KENYON & KENYON LLP
One Broadway
New York, New York 10004
(212) 425-7200

CUSTOMER NO. 26646